RNA FOR A BETTER LIFE IN THE HEIGHTS

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

September 1991 *232 Ogden Avenue - Jersey City, N.J. 07307 - (201) 798-0493*

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION OR ELECTED OFFICIAL

RNA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

RNA is inaugurating a membership drive this month to welcome new people to the organization. We are asking all our regular members to bring a new neighborhood person with them to the September 13th meeting : to introduce them to our group and ask them to get involved with our community. There is a cyclical need for "new blood" in every organization: to reinvigorate the old members, rededicate the original goals of the group and create new and different directions for the community.

Our neighborhood is a multi-ethnic community of different cultures. It is also made up of homeowners, tenants, landlords, and businesses. For RNA to truly represent this neighborhood, it must reflect the many views and sometimes divergent opinions of ALL its residents. RNA can only become stronger with the inclusion of all these people.

Our neighborhood is undergoing many difficult and severe changes. As with any contemporary urban area, it is confronted with: crime and violence, street gangs, vandalism, graffitti, drug sales and alcohol consumption, loud music, sanitation and health violations, threats to our residential zoning, overcrowded and undermaintained housing, and inadequate City services. RNA needs the help and support of ALL its residents to combat these problems with the aid of the City.

Riverview Neighborhood Association is asking for the concerned citizens of the neighborhood to become involved and help support the efforts of their neighbors to improve the quality of life for our community. Again, we ask all our regular members to recruit a new person to join our group at the September 13th meeting.

CONRAD'S CORNER

Just when we were beginning to admire the beautiful trees and greenery of Riverview Park as a magnificent historic site, we now hear that the Park is to be rehabilitated again with a scorched earth policy of replacing the concrete paving with the same design that we strenuously objected to before. (At that time, the renovation was countered with a petition drive of over one thousand signatures asking to leave the Park alone.) The same playground design which we nixed is back again; in fact, there are no new changes in the plan from when it was first submitted.

The decision was made by the Jersey city Environmental Commission (we were told that occurred last June) which meets in the Caucus Room of the City Hall once a month with about six members. Since not too many people read the Jersey Journal in the City and only a handfull would ever read the finely printed notices, it is understandable why the one thousand and twenty Heights citizens who signed the petition to leave the Park alone never saw the notice. If not even ten percent of the residents of Jersey City read a newspaper, there should be other means of notifying us of neighborhood activities - such as our own Riverview Neighborhood Association newsletter which has a circulation of over 300. Vito Brunetti, chairperson of the RNA, is always alvailable by phone or answering machine. A call to all neighborhood associations should be made a month before a meeting is held in City Hall to make sure everyone is aware of what's going on.

While the City has been working on these renovation plans for the western portion of the Park, there are missing railings on the Pavilion which have been totally neglected during the summer months. Obviously, it is dangerous to allow small children, or adults for that matter, to play in the pavilion without the proper safety supports. Don't the

COMING EVENTS

1) **RNA MEETING:**
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13th, at 7:30 PM
AT THE HARBOR VIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER

TOPICS:
a) NEW MEMBERSHIP DRIVE
b) RIVERVIEW PARK RENOVATION PLANS
c) PROBLEMS OF CRIME AND SANITATION ON PALISADE AVENUE
d) 210 OGDEN AVENUE UPDATE
e) HOLIDAY FOOD AND TOY DRIVE
f) PARTY FOR HARBOR VIEW RESIDENTS
g) REOPENING OF MOUNTAIN ROAD

attendants who work in the Park report this danger to their superiors in the Parks Division? Don't they see these problems? Or what about the other Park workers who come to Riverview Park once a week to pick up their paychecks - are they blind?

No wonder our taxes are going through the roof with such inefficiency and lack of maintenance.

Efforts are being made to contact Council President Marilyn Roman who had intervened originally and promised to assist RNA with these renovations. All interested in this issue, should attend the next RNA meeting on Sept. 13th.

OUR BEST FLEA MARKET YET!

The success of this year's RNA FLEA MARKET was due to the efforts of chairwoman Margaret McCorry and her able staff of assistants. We gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Gina Giambattista, Hank Cesari, Frank Scafidi, Kevin O'Connell, Ernie Quintero, Susan Lesh, David Bland, Jack Rea, Gert Bodgan, Dennis Elgrim, Frank Sweeney, Rose Scalzo, Marie Lannie, Jim Roehl, Jean Buzzard, Jose Torres, Dominic Rea, Rose Rea, Jean Brunetti, Andy Brunetti, Kathy Dellaglio, Kathy Brennan, Cosmo Sasso, Ruth Conrad, Dee Ipsaro, Marie Tresca, Maria Tuzzo, Glenn Crooks, and Frank Grazeola.

We appreciate the contributions of the A&P supermarket ("thanks MR. G!"), Saint Nicholas Church, Rodney Hadley and the clean-up crew of the Parks division, Traffic Engineering, Captain Shamburg of the North District, the PAL volunteers, Roll-off and the Recycling Division of the Incinerator Authority, and Christ Hospital. A special thanks to our neighborhood magician Tony Scarpa.

A project as big as our flea market requires many people. If we have failed to mention anyone who in any way helped, we apologize for the oversight. We could not have done it without YOU. Once again, A WELL-DESERVED THANK YOU to all for your efforts in making this year's flea market the best yet! SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR IN RIVERVIEW PARK!

MEETING MINUTES

The **June 14th meeting** of RNA, which took place the day before our annual flea market, was devoted to last minute details regarding this anxiously anticipated neighborhood event. The membership then enjoyed refreshments and went home early to prepare for the next day's activities.

The **July 12th meeting** was spent almost entirely celebrating the overwhelming success of our recent flea market, which had been held on Saturday, June 15th. We also considered different ways to improve this annual event which has been increasing in size and responsibilities every year. The issues of vendor and customer parking, cars driving through the closed street of the Park, clean-up at the end of the event and the need for more and better organized volunteers to help work during the day were the main concerns of the group. Although there were no immediate answers to this problems, the flea market committee will be discussing them during the coming year.

The **August 9th meeting** was sparely attended, due to vacation and inclement weather. The attending members held an informal discussion about several topics: a membership drive, improvements for next year's flea market, acquiring a sound system for future activities, and other methods of fund raising for the community. Vice Chair Marie Lannie brought the group up to date with the ongoing zoning dispute at 210 Ogden Avenue with the Rodriquez brothers.

What is in store for our neighborhood for the future? Please join us at the Harbor View Health Care Center on Friday, September 13th at 7:30 PM to find out the answer to this question.

P.S. We are asking all members to bring a friend or neighbor as a potential new member to this meeting!

WHO OWNS THAT PROBLEM BUILDING ON PALISADE AVENUE?

There are many social problems that are evident on Palisade Avenue. This summer was a culmination of many of these conditions: crime and violence, street gangs, drugs and alcohol abuse, sanitation and health violations, building violations, loud music, and car repairs on the street. Despite the efforts of Captain Shamburg of the North District Police Dept. and Inspector Ray Spellmeyer of the Incinerator Authority, these problems continue to plague our neighborhood and ruin our quality of life.

In an effort to make the responsible people aware of this dilemma, RNA (with the help of Joe Gallagher , aide of Councilman Waddleton) found out the names of the owners of the properties where these anti-social activities occur.

At our September meeting, RNA will discuss sending each of these owners a letter informing them of the problems that are occurring at their property and asking them to take the necessary steps to correct these conditions immediately.The following is a list of these owners and their home addresses.

LOCATION:	OWNER/ADDRESS:
1) 383 Palisade	Jorge Lopez, Jr. 222 Central Avenue Union City, N.J. 07087
2) 385 Palisade	385 Palisade Avenue Inc. 385 Palisade Avenue J.C., N.J. 07307
3) 387 Palisade	Karl Lattarulo 1029 Winchester Way Chesapeake, Va. 23320
4) 409 Palisade	H. Guderski, Trustee: M R & J 409 Palisade Avenue J. C. N.J. 07307
5) 411 Palisade	Jalil & Samia Haddad 104 E. 9th street Clifton , N.J. 07011

6) 413 Palisade	South Bergen S & L Assn. 250 Valley blvd. Woodridge, N.J. 07075
7) 419 Palisade	Leanne & Mitchell Makowsky 300 E. 74th Street New York City, 10021
8) 436-38 Palisade	Frank Gozzolino 436-38 Palisade Ave. J. C. , N.J. 07307
9) 444-46 Palisade	Lucila Faris 444 Palisade Avenue J.C., N.J. 07307
10) 445 Palisade	Siva Investments II 63 Pleasant Ave. Passaic, N.J. 07055
11) 448 Palisade	448 Palisade Ave., Inc. 448 Palisade Ave. J.C., N.J. 07307
12) 450 Palisade	Marina Jaramillo c/o F. Rubino, Esq. 1130 S.W. 103 Ct. Miami , Fla., 33174
13) 452 Palisade	Marina Jaramillo same as above
14) 454 Palisade	Richard Uhrig 72 Athens ave. South Amboy, N.J. 08879

MANY THANKS TO BOOREAM AVENUE

RNA would like to thank the original (but now defunct) Booream Avenue Block Association for its generous contribution to our group. This group, whose members have separated and joined either the RNA or the new Ravine-Booream Block Association, divided the remaining funds in their treasury and made a donation to each of the two organizations involved.

Thanks again for the gift and thank you for such wonderful hard working members as Gert Bodgan and Rose Scalzo.

THE RNA HOLIDAY FOOD AND TOY DRIVES AND HARBOR VIEW PARTY

It is never to early to think of helping the less fortunate. This year our food and toy drives will begin with the October 11th meeting and will end with the December 13th meeting. Everyone is being asked to bring their donations of non-perishable foods and/or toys (either used or new but in good working condition) to these meetings or to please call Maria at 659-2245 for the address to drop off items in between the meetings.These gifts will be given to the Jersey City Salvation Army for distribution during the holidays.

At our September meeting, we will also organize our annual holiday party for the Harbor View residents. It is a nice way of thanking the Center's administration and senior residents for allowing RNA to use their facilities during the year. More importantly, it is a way of spending some time and bringing some joy to these neighbors at the Center. It is usually one afternoon of volunteering: entertaining, talking and just being with these wonderful senior citizens. Won't you please help to make this year a success?

LETTERS TO RNA

1) PLEASE HELP US GET OUR MAIL!
(Due to our neighborhood's never ending problems with the delivery of the mail, one of our members, Madeline Rea, finally decided to write to U.S. Congressman Frank Guarini and N.J. State Assemblyman Bernard Kenny. The following are the responses from Congressman Guarini.)

Dear Ms. Rea:

I have received your recent letter to my Jersey City district office regarding the difficulties Ogden Avenue is experiencing with the mail.

In an effort to be of assistance I have contacted the proper officials at the Post Office asking for corrective action to be taken on this problem. Upon receipt of a reply I will again be in touch with you.

Dear Assemblyman Kenny:

I have received your letter regarding the problem Ogden Avenue residents are having with their mail.

I share your concerns and feel this service is unsatisfactory. Please note that I have contacted the postal officials expressing my concern and requesting a solution be addressed.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Frank J. Guarini
Member of Congress
14th District, New Jersey

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2) CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION REBUILDING TRUST

Dear RNA:

Ecumenical volunteers are rebuilding the church of the Ascension. These friends, neighbors and parishioners are giving sweat equity to restore Ascension as the community center and church that it has been since 1871.

We need roofing material to cover over the floor of the old church to keep rain out of the parish hall. We need sheet rock, electric wire, and lumber to renovate the parish hall level. Our volunteers need these supplies right away.

Your dollars will rebuild our community center and church. Some supplies have been donated. Our resources are limited Your gift will let the willing volunteers DO THE JOB NOW.

Please send a donation today, to my home at 28 South Street, J.C., N.J. 07307. Better yet, bring your donation to my house. I live right across from the church. We'd like to show you what we have accomplished so far.

Marta Minervini
Project Director

BRAVO TO A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER!

RNA would like to congratulate the LEONARD GORDON PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION for their excellent newsletter, "Jersey City Heights Neighborhood News". It is a welcome and much-needed addition to this area's local communication network. It is only through the volunteer efforts of such people that the important news of the local community is distributed throughout the different neighborhoods. Besides printing news that is beyond the interest of the commercial papers, community newsletters create a spirit of involvement and participation to motivate citizens to help improve their quality of life.

Requests from the Harbor View

The Harbor View Health Care Center is always looking for eager volunteers to help with their residents. If you are interested, please call 963-1800 and ask for more information.

The Center is also looking for donations to use as prizes for their bingo games for the residents. If you can spare any nik-naks, unused greeting cards, men and ladies "one size fits all" socks, artificial flowers, costume jewelry, et cetera., please bring them to the front desk at the Center, located on the corner of Ogden Avenue and Franklin Street.

JERSEY CITY MUSEUM'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

This fall the Museum is offering a series of special workshops, classes and special programs. The classes include quilting, knitting, and figure drawing. There will be workshops in sculpting and scherenschnitte (traditional German art of papercutting). For information and registration please call 547-4380.

The Museum is also organizing tours of the Hudson County Court House, which will be free of charge. Call 915-1212 for information.

SEPTEMBER...

Labor Day picnics, children return to school,
RNA members return to monthly meetings, newsletters go to press once again,
Foliage and pumpkins soon on their way, turkey and goblins, long winter nights,
Starting of another year for RNA members to plan happy activities!

Madeline Tuzzo Rea

HELP SUPPORT RNA

Don't forget to pay your annual membership dues for 1991. It only costs $3.00 a year to enjoy the benefits of joining Riverview Neighborhood Association. Official membership entitles people living within RNA's boundaries - voting privileges on all matters that are brought before the association at the monthly general meetings (the boundaries are Bowers Street on the north, Palisade Avenue on the west, Ogden Avenue on the east and Cuneo Place on the south) and the monthly mailing of our newsletter.

For people living outside the area, membership dues entitle them to receive the RNA monthly newsletter and attend the monthly meetings as active non-voting participants. In general, monies collected from the dues help defray the cost of mailing our monthly newsletter, pay for refreshments, stamps for correspondence and other important or unexpected expenses incurred in running our Association.

Make your check payable to Riverview Neighborhood Association and mail it to 232 Ogden Avenue, J.C., N.J. 07307. Be sure to include your return address so that your membership card can be sent to you. Better yet, bring it in person to our next meeting, Friday, September 13th at the Harbor View Health Care Center.

JERSEY CITY RECYCLING

HERE IS THE OFFICIAL LIST OF WHAT IS RECYCLABLE IN JERSEY CITY:

PAPER: NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, CARDBOARD, GIFT BOXES, JUNK MAIL, SCHOOL PAPER, OFFICE PAPER, COMPUTER PAPER, TELEPHONE BOOKS

PLASTICS: SODA BOTTLES, MILK CONTAINERS, WATER CONTAINERS, FOOD BOTTLES

GLASS: SODA BOTTLES, BEER BOTTLES, FOOD JARS
(NO PLASTIC AND/OR GLASS HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL OR DETERGENT CONTAINERS)

CANS: ALUMINUM, TIN, STEEL
(NO CHEMICAL OR PAINT CANS)

OUR NEIGHBORHOOD PICK UP DAY IS WEDNESDAY. REMEMBER, PAPER PRODUCTS SHOULD BE SEPARATE BUT GLASS, PLASTIC AND METAL CAN BE GROUPED TOGETHER.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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SEE YOU AT OUR NEXT RNA MEETING ON FRIDAY, September 13th, AT 7:30 P.M.

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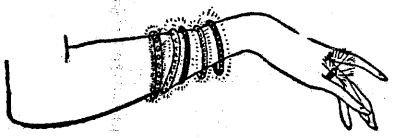

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DON'T FORGET TO COME TO RNA'S
SEPTEMBER 13TH MEETING AND BRING A
NEIGHBOR OR FRIEND AS A NEW MEMBER

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Theodore Conrad
Historical Advisor

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PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
Hank Cesari

ENVIRONMENT
Ann Hart

FLEA MARKET
Margaret McCorry

IMPORTANT JERSEY CITY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Due to the many requests for the appropriate Jersey City telephone number to call when there is either a question or a problem to be addressed, RNA is starting a monthly listing of these numbers in the newsletter. Each month, there will be a different agency or individual added to the list.

Mayor's office:	547-5200
North District Police:	
Captain Shamburg	547-5352
Front Desk	547-5350
Incinerator Authority:	432-4645
Sanitation Problems	Ext. 29
Recycling information	Ext. 48
Parks Division	547-4449, 4495